Basic information

2017/2123(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
Annual report on the implementation of the common security and defence policy **Subject** 6.10.02 Common security and defence policy (CSDP); WEU, NATO	

Key players

European Parliament	**Committee responsible**	**Rapporteur**	**Appointed**
	AFET Foreign Affairs	GAHLER Michael (PPE)	28/02/2017
		Shadow rapporteur PICULA Tonino (S&D) BOŞTINARU Victor (S&D)	
European Commission	**Commission DG**	**Commissioner**	
	Foreign Policy Instruments	MOGHERINI Federica	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
06/07/2017	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
06/11/2017	Vote in committee		
13/11/2017	Committee report tabled for plenary	A8-0351/2017	Summary
12/12/2017	Debate in Parliament		
13/12/2017	Decision by Parliament	T8-0492/2017	Summary
13/12/2017	Results of vote in Parliament		
13/12/2017	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2017/2123(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure

Procedure subtype	Annual report
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 55
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AFET/8/10364

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE609.294	28/07/2017	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE610.709	19/09/2017	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A8-0351/2017	13/11/2017	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T8-0492/2017	13/12/2017	Summary

Annual report on the implementation of the common security and defence policy

2017/2123(INI) - 13/12/2017 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 368 votes to 237, with 161 abstentions, a resolution on the annual report on the implementation of the Common Security and Defence Policy.

Parliament stressed that **no single Member State can tackle the complex security challenges** the EU faces - inter-state conflicts, natural disasters, extreme weather events, water shortages, state collapse, proliferation of criminal organisations, terrorism, cyberattacks - and that the EU must step up its efforts to establish concrete cooperation within the framework of the CFSP/CSDP and to act effectively as a global player, which implies speaking with one voice and acting together, but also focus its resources on strategic priorities.

Members stated that terrorism represents one of the key challenges to the security of EU citizens, requiring swift, firm and coordinated action, both at internal and external level. It stressed the need to prevent radicalisation, to block any source of financial resources to terrorist organisations, to tackle terrorist propaganda and to improve intelligence sharing between Member States, as well as with third countries, NATO and other relevant partner organisations.

Institutional framework: Parliament stressed that the Union needs to use the **full range of policy instruments available** - diplomacy, development cooperation, civilian and economic instruments, crisis prevention and post-conflict strategies, peacekeeping and peace-enforcing - in order to cope with the rising challenges.

Members congratulated the **launch of the European Defence Fund**. They urged the HR/VP and the Commission to act on Parliament's calls for an **EU Security and Defence White Book** in the context of preparing the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF).

Parliament is in favour of:

- urgently installing the **start-up fund** as foreseen by the Treaty in order to allow fast deployment of operations;
- establishing **permanent structured cooperation** (PESCO) on those military aspects that are necessary to implement CSDP tasks such as permanently pooled military units;
- reforming the intergovernmental joint financing mechanism **Athena**;
- making **pooling and sharing of capabilities** the rule and not the exception;
- **pooling national resources** with regard to research, development, procurement, maintenance and training;
- **coordinating national defence planning** (Coordinated Annual Review on Defence, CARD) as currently planned;
- initiating **common rules for military certification** and a common policy on security of supply.

All possibilities provided for in the Treaty would improve the competitiveness and functioning of the defence industry within the single market should be used. The Commission, the Council and the VP/HR are called on to engage, together with Parliament, in an **interinstitutional dialogue** on the progressive framing of a common defence policy.

Permanent structured cooperation: Parliament considered that the permanent structured cooperation (PESCO) should develop within the EU framework and that it should benefit from effective Union support, in full respect of Member States' competences in defence. It renewed its call for **appropriate PESCO funding** to be provided from the Union budget.

The resolution also called for the establishment of a **fully-fledged EU civilian-military strategic headquarters** under PESCO. It encouraged the Member States participating in PESCO to set up a permanent **'European Integrated Force'**, composed of divisions of their national armies, and to make it available to the Union. It called for the evaluation, in close coordination with the VP/HR, of the opportunity to establish a **Directorate-General for Defence** within the Commission (DG Defence) which should work in liaison with the European Defence Agency (EDA).

CSDP missions and operations: Members regretted that the efficiency of these missions can still be jeopardised by structural weaknesses, uneven contributions from Member States and unsuitability to the operational environment, deploring in particular the limitations in the CSDP mission mandates. They stressed, in this context, the need for real effectiveness that can only be achieved with the provision of **proper military equipment**, and urged the Council and the VP/HR to make use of the possibilities provided for in Article 41.2 TEU to this end.

Parliament is also convinced of the need to **contribute further to crisis management and prevention** and, specifically, to provide assistance to the reconstruction and stabilisation of Iraq. It called for increased efforts to improve **cyber security**, in particular for CSDP missions, inter alia by taking measures at EU and Member State levels to mitigate threats to the CSDP.

EU-NATO cooperation: Members believe that in the current context, the strategic partnership between the EU and NATO is **fundamental** to addressing the security challenges facing Europe and its neighbourhood, noting that a stronger EU and NATO are mutually reinforcing. Member States should increase their efforts to act both within an EDU and as autonomous regional security providers, and in a complementary role within NATO.

Annual report on the implementation of the common security and defence policy

2017/2123(INI) - 13/11/2017 - Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading

The Committee on Foreign Affairs adopted an own-initiative report by Michael GAHLER (EPP, DE) on the annual report on the implementation of the Common Security and Defence Policy.

The report stressed that **no single Member State can tackle the complex security challenges** the EU faces - inter-state conflicts, natural disasters, extreme weather events, water shortages, state collapse, proliferation of criminal organisations, terrorism, cyberattacks - and that the EU must step up its efforts to establish concrete cooperation within the framework of the CFSP/CSDP and to act effectively as a global player, which implies speaking with one voice and acting together, but also focus its resources on strategic priorities.

Institutional framework: the report stressed that the Union needs to use the **full range of policy instruments available** - diplomacy, development cooperation, civilian and economic instruments, crisis prevention and post-conflict strategies, peacekeeping and peace-enforcing - in order to cope with the rising challenges.

Members welcomed the progress made in developing a stronger European defence stance since the adoption of the EU Global Strategy for Foreign and Security Policy (EUGS) in June 2016. They in particular, congratulated the **launch of the European Defence Fund**. They urged the HR/VP and the Commission to act on Parliament's calls for an **EU Security and Defence White Book** in the context of preparing the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF).

Members are in favour of:

- urgently installing the **start-up fund** as foreseen by the Treaty in order to allow fast deployment of operations;
- establishing **permanent structured cooperation** (PESCO) on those military aspects that are necessary to implement CSDP tasks such as permanently pooled military units;
- making **pooling and sharing of capabilities** the rule and not the exception;
- **pooling national resources** with regard to research, development, procurement, maintenance and training;
- **coordinating national defence planning** (Coordinated Annual Review on Defence, CARD) as currently planned;
- initiating **common rules for military certification** and a common policy on security of supply.

All possibilities provided for in the Treaty would improve the competitiveness and functioning of the defence industry within the single market should be used. Parliament should turn its Subcommittee on Security and Defence (SEDE) into a fully-fledged parliamentary committee.

Permanent structured cooperation: Members considered that the permanent structured cooperation (PESCO) should develop within the EU framework and that it should benefit from effective Union support, in full respect of Member States' competences in defence. They renewed their call for **appropriate PESCO funding** to be provided from the Union budget.

They also called for the establishment of a **fully-fledged EU civilian-military strategic headquarters** under PESCO. They encouraged the Member States participating in PESCO to set up a permanent 'European Integrated Force', composed of divisions of their national armies, and to make it available to the Union. They called for the evaluation, in close coordination with the VP/HR, of the opportunity to establish a **Directorate-General for Defence** within the Commission (DG Defence).

CSDP missions and operations: Members regretted that the efficiency of these missions can still be jeopardised by structural weaknesses, uneven contributions from Member States and unsuitability to the operational environment, deploring in particular the limitations in the CSDP mission

mandates. They stressed, in this context, the need for real effectiveness that can only be achieved with the provision of **proper military equipment**, and urged the Council and the VP/HR to make use of the possibilities provided for in Article 41.2 TEU to this end.

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